

Take the bus to Musselburgh Races on New Year's Day



Musselburgh Racecourse has welcomed plenty of winners in its time but now dozens of racegoers can share that feeling on New Year's Day, by riding their own guaranteed winner – in the shape of a double decker bus.

Jockey Leanne Ferguson climbed out of her saddle on racing thoroughbred horse Takahiro and climbed onto the exclusive raceday bus to help promote the service being laid on by bosses at Musselburgh Racecourse.

The special First Foot double decker buses will carry savvy revellers of all ages to and from the Totepool New Year's Day Race Meeting, one of the highlights of the Scottish racing calendar.

Those lucky enough to claim the sought-after places on the double decker will enjoy an "each way" success story, with a return journey to and from the event, removing any worries about New Year's Day transport arrangements.

Leanne said: "Everyone wants to ride a winner and whoever is lucky enough to purchase a ticket and secure a place on these buses can give themselves a huge pat on the back.

"They'll be able to completely relax on New Year's Day and get totally into the party atmosphere at the Totepool New Year's Day event.

"It's a fantastic day out with a great race card and plenty of other entertainment – and the whole day is that bit more special this time around because January 1 marks the start of Musselburgh's Bi-centenary Year."

There is limited availability and bookings are strictly first come, first served. Places can be booked online for £5 return (Edinburgh) and £10 return (Galashiels) with the purchase of admission tickets. The shuttle services will deliver racegoers to the venue ahead of the first race at 12.25pm and will depart the racecourse for the return journey following the final race which takes place at 3.20pm.

Thousands of people are expected to turn out at Musselburgh Racecourse for the popular jumps fixture, one of the Feature Highlights at the 5 star venue, just a few miles from Edinburgh.

Visitors will enjoy the warmest of welcomes straight off the bus with delicious mulled cider and a traditional haggis rolls available to purchase upon arrival.

A seasonal twist to the afternoon is the chance to soak in the atmosphere of one of the most historic athletic events in the world, The New Year Sprint, which attracts athletes from across the country.

Sarah Montgomery, Senior Operations and Commercial Manager at Musselburgh Racecourse said: "The New Year's Day fixture is always a fantastic way to usher in the New Year and this promises to be the best yet.

"For those wanting to continue the party with family and friends, it really is the place to be – and now with the help of our bus services more people can be sure to attend.

"For anyone who is feeling a bit jaded by the festive excess, or for those who have made New Year resolutions, it is also the ideal day out, offering a bracing event to blow away the cobwebs, with plenty of fresh air and inspiring sporting achievement."

✘ Musselburgh is firmly established as one of the UK's most stylish racecourses, hosting 28 Flat and Jumps meetings each

year, including the hugely popular Stobo Castle Ladies Day.

The 5 star Visit Scotland venue is popular with racing enthusiasts and is firmly established with both families and corporate clients.

Events like the Totepool New Year's Day Race Meeting and the Scottish Cheltenham Trials in February are helping it attract a more diverse audience.

For further information and to book tickets visit www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk